

***STATE COMMITTEE OF DIETITIANS BULLETIN***  
***Department of Economic Development***  
***Division of Professional Registration***  
***October 2001***

***New Division Director Appointed***

On January 25, 2001, Marilyn Taylor Williams was confirmed as the new Director of the Missouri Division of Professional Registration. She replaces Randall Singer who served as the Division Director since 1993.

Prior to her confirmation, Ms. Williams of Dudley, served in the House of Representatives from 1991 to 2001. In the General Assembly, Ms. Williams' key committee assignments included chair of the House of Agribusiness Committee, vice-chair of Appropriations, Agriculture and Economic Resources, and the House Budget Committee. She was also a member of the Missouri Tourism Commission.

***Celebrating One Year!***

It has officially been one year since the State of Missouri began licensure of dietitians. **CONGRATULATIONS** to all 923 of you who made that professional decision to obtain your license!

As professionals please encourage your fellow colleagues to obtain their license as well. You will more than likely run into individuals who do not know exactly what the purpose of licensure is, as office staff over the past year received many phone calls from dietitians asking just that question.

Perhaps first and foremost, it allows individuals to use the title "L.D." or "Licensed Dietitian", do any of us seek medical advice, treatment, etc. from doctors who do not have DO, MD, etc. behind their name? **Creditability, professionalism, and support of your profession** are just a few additional purposes of licensure.

Although neither you nor the State Committee of Dietitians can mandate individuals to become licensed, please do your part in promoting it!

***Legislation Update***

This past legislative session Senate Bill 384 was signed by Governor Holden, which contained a few changes to the Dietitian Act. Please log onto [www.ecodev.state.mo.us/pr](http://www.ecodev.state.mo.us/pr) or call 573-522-3438 to obtain a copy of the current statutes.

